

March 26, 2015

## Personal Matters / Ex. 6

RE: Columbia Falls Aluminum Plant

Dear Ms. Hader:

Thank you for contacting the Governor's Office with your concerns about the demolition of the Columbia Falls Aluminum Plant. This issue is best addressed through the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), since it is handling the permits and enforcement for the demolition of the plant.

Glencore (the company) is required to notify DEQ of any demolition activities that it undertakes. If asbestos is present, the company must obtain a permit and appropriately address the asbestos. Even if no asbestos is present, the company needs to take reasonable precautions to control dust. The company is currently working with DEQ to address any hazardous waste requirements. During demolition activities, if you notice anything that causes you concern, please report it to DEQ's Enforcement Division at 444-0379.

You asked if there is a redevelopment or manufacturing proposal in the works for the property. The Montana Department of Commerce is not aware of any specific proposal. The local Montana West Economic Development Group shared that it has been told that the property is not for sale. Although, as you know, the company owns the property and it can decide to sell or not sell its property. The Montana West Economic Development Group believes the industry sectors that would benefit from such a site include: a data center, manufacturing of wood, agriculture, wind products, or military defense contractors.

Since you have first-hand knowledge regarding wildlife use of the area, we have shared your letter with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This information may be helpful for future environmental evaluations, and I want to ensure both agencies are aware of it.

Finally, you raised concerns about the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP). This is a national issue, and I encourage you to contact Montana's congressional delegation to share your views. They can be reached at the addresses provided at:

http://mt.gov/govt/congressional\_delegation.mcpx.

I encourage you to continue to be engaged with future community involvement activities related to the Columbia Falls Aluminum Plant. Thank you for your insight regarding the wildlife at this site and concern for Montana's natural resources.

Sincerely,

Tom Livers Director

#REM-15021

ec: Governor Bullock Jenny Chambers John Arrigo

Tour livers